

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 6-26 are pending in the application. Claim 20 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 22. Claim 24 has been amended to change its dependency. New claim 27 has been added and claims 21-23 have been cancelled. No new matter is introduced.

I. REJECTION OF CLAIM 20 UNDER §103

Claims 20-21 and 24-26 have been rejected as obvious in view of Long and van den Elzen. However, claims 22-23 were deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With regard to the allowable subject matter of claim 22, claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 22 as well as all the limitations of intervening claim 21. Accordingly, withdrawal of the §103 rejection as to claim 20 is respectfully requested.

As claims 21 and 24-26 depend from amended claim 20, withdrawal of the §103 rejection as to these claims is also requested.

II. NEW CLAIM 27

With regard to the allowable subject matter of claim 23, new claim 27 has been added. New claim 27 includes the limitations of claim 23 as well as all the limitations of intervening claim 21. Accordingly, claim 27 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

III. CONCLUSION

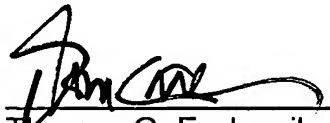
For at least the above reasons, pending claims currently under consideration are believed to be in condition for allowance and notice thereof is requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

In addition, should any fees be due as a result of the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the Deposit Account Number 50-1733, INFNP117US.

Respectfully submitted,
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By



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: April 24, 2006


Christine Gillroy